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## Letter from Executive Director

Michael Stoller

Each January, I take pleasure in thanking everyone for their participation in our annual Leadership Awards Reception. It was a truly special night - not only did we thank two tremendous leaders in the sector, Jack Krauskopf and Elwanda Young - but we also celebrated HSC's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and saw many of our original founders, leaders, and friends join us at the event on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Please visit our [website](#) for more information and photos from the event.



L-to-R: Lawrence Mandell, Jack Krauskopf, Elwanda Young, Joel Copperman, Michael Stoller

Our annual party may be over, but we still have something to celebrate - the new tax reform package announced by the Governor in December. The Governor and Legislature took an important first step at the end of 2011 by adopting a new tax package that moves our tax system in a more progressive direction (see our *Advocacy Results* section). HSC focused its lobbying efforts on extending the personal income tax surcharge and our work helped make this tax reform happen - but we can't stop there. We must take additional measures to raise revenue and address the wealth gap. Corporate tax loophole closures and cost-saving measures, such as streamlining nonprofit contracting approaches, should be considered to maintain funding to vital human services.

## In This Issue

[Act Now!](#)

[Government Relations](#)

[Did You Know?](#)

[News on Budgets](#)

[Advocacy Results](#)

[Technology Update](#)

[Upcoming Workshops](#)

[Welcome to HSC](#)

[Member News](#)

## News on Budgets

### New York State Budget

On January 17, the Governor released his **Executive Budget Plan for FY13**. HSC is pleased with the Governor's overall recognition of the importance of human services, particularly with the investments being made in childcare and supportive housing, as well as support for administrative reforms. However, HSC is concerned about the continuation of cuts and elimination of several human services programs after years of significant cumulative decreases. For HSC's analysis of this plan, please visit our [members only](#) section of the website.

Governor Cuomo signed an Executive Order on January 18 that eliminates cost of living adjustments, a 15% cap on administrative rate, and an executive compensation cap of \$199,000 to be reimbursed by the State. HSC, along with


We know our work is far from done. The Governor just released his Executive Budget proposal for FY13 and although we're delighted that he's highlighting work to increase State efficiencies through better processes and operations (such as the contracting efficiencies HSC has implemented with City government), the cumulative cuts to human services will be difficult to overcome. HSC just released a report on the negative impact of these cuts to human services - and how the continued budget cuts are impacting human services providers, clients, and the State economy overall. Please see our *News on Budgets* section for more information on both the proposed Executive Budget and HSC's new report.

To increase the visibility of our sector, HSC is continuing its **Who Cares? I Do.** campaign, which we launched exactly one year ago on Valentine's Day. To commemorate this auspicious day, we're asking all members to help us gather "I ♥ human services" valentines - please see our *ACT NOW!* section for more information on how you can help.

We hope that you will join HSC as we continue to work with City and State government on ways to fund vitally important human services.

Please join us and send this newsletter to friends who want to support the sector.

Many thanks,  
Michael Stoller

 Forward to a Friend

## Act Now!

Show your support for human services this Valentine's Day! HSC will celebrate the one-year anniversary of its **Who Cares? I Do.** campaign on February 14<sup>th</sup> with "I ♥ human services" installations across the city.

other nonprofit providers and advocates, are concerned with the administration's approach to this issue as well as the ramifications of this order on nonprofits. Read the full story in [New York Nonprofit Press \(NYNP\)](#).

On January 17, HSC released a report, **A Lose-Lose Proposition: The Economic Impact of Lost Human Services in New York State**, which analyzes the negative impact of lost human services funding on employment, the economy, and the social programs that millions of state residents rely on. In the past two years, over 27,000 jobs have been lost following the \$800 million budget cuts at the state level for vital human services. For more information on the impact of lost human services funding, read our [full report](#).

**Governor Cuomo** gave his State of the State Address on January 4. HSC embraces Governor Cuomo's message about the importance of getting New Yorkers back to work and urges our elected leaders to recognize the role human services play in removing barriers to work during the budget negotiation process. Read the rest of [HSC's response](#).

## New York City Budget

The **Mayor's preliminary budget for FY13** is expected on February 2. HSC will distribute an analysis of the budget and its effect on human services soon after the release of the budget.

**Mayor Bloomberg** gave his State of the City speech on January 12. The bulk of the Mayor's speech focused on education and job creation with minimal mention of human services. HSC agrees with the Mayor that education is important; however, the supportive services provided by human services to help students be successful in the classroom are an equally necessary investment. Read [HSC's response](#).

On November 18, the New York City Office of Management and Budget released the November Financial Plan which included the fiscal year **2012 and 2013 Programs to Eliminate the Gap (PEGs)**. As a result of this action, human services agencies saw almost \$114 million in additional cuts in FY12, which were enacted immediately, and \$60 million in cuts in FY13. Youth and families are the most affected by these cuts with Department of Youth and Community Development-funded programs hit hardest. To

I ♥ Human Services Because:



We need service providers to organize clients and staff to fill out the [heart template](#) with a statement about why human services are important to them. Please email [Karen Broderick](#) to let HSC know approximately how many valentines your agency will produce.

The **State Education Department waiver for certain professional services are due by February 1**. New York State Education law prohibits the practice of social work, mental health, and psychology by corporate entities, including nonprofit organizations. Nonprofit service providers may provide the services only if waivers of corporate practice prohibitions are requested from the [State Education Department](#). For more information, read the [fact sheet](#), call 518-474-3817x450, or email the Mayor's Office of Contract Services [Capacity Building and Oversight Unit](#).

The legislature announced the **joint budget hearing schedule for the Governor's Executive Budget plan for FY13**. The hearing for Human Services will be February 13. To testify, contact the person listed on the [schedule](#) no later than two days prior to the hearing. If you testify, please let the legislature know you are part of HSC and a supporter of **Who Cares? I Do**. To read the press release, click [here](#).

HSC is proud to present its new [Advocacy Calendar](#) to improve coordination among human services advocates in New York City. This shared calendar enables organizations to inform other advocates of planned activities and events. This [calendar](#) can be viewed by the public on our website but is only updatable by our members

see a full summary of PEG amounts by agency for each year, click [here](#).

New York City's FY12 budget included \$116 million cuts to human services. HSC created an [interactive map](#) showing the impact of these cuts to some programs and services in New York City and how they affect your neighborhood.

## Advocacy Results

HSC rallied heavily for tax and job reform in December, gathering 90 signatories from statewide human services nonprofits. Following HSC's efforts with statewide and City-based coalitions, **Governor Cuomo announced a New York State tax reform and job creation package on December 6**. Highlights of the plan include \$1.9 billion raised in revenue, \$1 billion dedicated to a "New Works Agenda" that will create jobs throughout the State, and the Inner City Youth Employment Program. To read HSC's response to the Governor's plan, [click here](#).

Through the Strengthening Nonprofits Workgroup, Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services Linda Gibbs, announced that vendors providing client services, mainly nonprofit organizations, will **no longer have to file reports with Department of Labor Services (DLS)**. Instead, NYC will rely on alternative sources of information to ensure that such vendors fully comply with applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulation. This Executive Order will relieve some of the duplicative administrative burdens faced by nonprofits, and we are grateful to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for their continuing work to streamline processes between nonprofits and government.

On October 26, **HSC coordinated a statewide human services meeting**; this was the first time human services advocates were brought together to discuss ways to collaborate to protect human services across New York State. Items discussed included ways advocates could share data and information, a coordinated advocacy strategy and revenue agenda, and ways to support revenue agendas across the state.

As the year came to a close and a new one began, HSC continued to maintain a strong media presence:

- On January 22, the [New York Daily News](#) covered HSC's [new report](#) on the

Start putting your events on the calendar today!

Empire Justice Center released a report on December 21, showing how **hundreds of eligible New York City households were improperly denied food stamps** due to the City's fingerprinting requirement. Currently, New York State is one of two states that still has this requirement and New York City is the only locality that continues to enforce this requirement in the State. Although Governor Cuomo rescinded this requirement at the State level, Mayor Bloomberg fought to keep it. Read the [press release](#) and the [report](#) to find out more. Make sure you visit their [website](#) to find out how you can get involved.

Join the *Who Cares? I Do.* campaign to protect human services. Let your voice be heard! Sign the [petition](#) if you haven't already and see other ways to [take action](#). Spread the word about the *Who Cares? I Do.* campaign by linking us on your website! Click [here](#) for instructions.

**Schedule meetings with your State Senators and Assembly Members.** Let them know they can expect to hear more from you during the 2012 legislative season. Share the past year's work, successes, challenges, and the needs of your communities. To find out who your representatives are, click [here](#).

If you haven't already, **please join HSC's Advocacy Action Response Group (AARG).** We are asking all members to designate at least one representative to this group. **AARG** members play an integral role in HSC's effectiveness in advocating for the sector and **receive pertinent policy information** to help facilitate advocacy activities. Contact [Shana Mosher](#) for more information or call her at 212-836-1125.

## Government Relations

On January 9, Michael Stoller joined community, labor, student, faith, and other organizations to speak at a press conference calling on Governor Cuomo and the Legislature to **close corporate loopholes and start corporate tax reform efforts** that could raise over \$1 billion for the state budget. These groups worked together last year on the Personal Income Tax surcharge (aka "Millionaire's Tax"), and will be working together to make corporate tax reform a key goal this year.

negative impact of \$800 million in budget cuts.

- Allison Sesso was on the [WBAI Evening News](#) on January 18 to discuss the recent impact of budget cuts on NY human services, the Governor's FY13 Executive Budget plan, and HSC's new [report](#).
- Michael Stoller and Allison Sesso responded to the Governor's State of the State address in the [NYNP](#) on January 5.
- On December 15, Michael Stoller and Councilmember Annabel Palma contributed an op-ed to *El Diario la Prensa* titled "[Will You Have a Home for the Holidays?](#)" Read the English version [here](#).
- Allison Sesso highlighted the *Who Cares? I Do.* campaign in [NYNP's Reflection on the Year](#).
- Michael Stoller and Allison Sesso spoke about the *Who Cares? I Do.* campaign on November 19 on [WBAI's City Watch](#).
- Allison Sesso was interviewed on October 24 on [NY1](#) regarding a Campaign Finance Board proposal that requires organizations to disclose independent spending on political campaigns.

For all these stories and more, please visit our [website](#).

To raise awareness of the importance of human services during the holidays, HSC organized a **social media event** on Thanksgiving asking human services organizations to post why they were thankful this year. HSC is truly thankful to be working with such incredible human services organizations. To learn more about the event, read our [blog](#).

## Technology Update

The **Business Solutions Workgroup** met on January 9 with Louisa Chafee, Director of Management Innovation, and the City's HHS Accelerator team to talk about the **new Integrated Financial Systems initiative** that will streamline billing and reimbursement for City Contracts. Angeles Pai, Executive Director of the Office of Support, Accountability, and Value-Enhancement (SAVE), also presented SAVE's objectives to reorganize Health and Human Services departments to create savings. Angeles also spoke about projects SAVE will be working on, including Centralized Audits and Group



Counsel - Special Services from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services, and manager of the City group purchasing initiative. Maureen provided an update on the initiative and received feedback and suggestions from providers regarding their experiences. The workgroup also discussed the timeline for the initiative and ideas to boost enrollment.

HSC participated in a meeting of the **Coalition for Court Simplification** on January 27. Read the [report](#) by the Dunne Commission to find out why court simplification is important. For information on how to get involved, please contact [Michelle Jackson](#).

HSC released a series of videos on nonprofits and lobbying. Watch these videos to find answers to these questions:

- [What is lobbying?](#)
- [Can 501\(c\)\(3\)s lobby?](#)
- [Nonprofit lobbying - What's legal? What isn't?](#)

HSC is excited to announce that we have reached **1000 twitter followers!** Please join us in celebrating and make sure to follow us if you haven't already for important updates and news on the human services sector.

On November 17, labor, community groups, and Occupy Wall Street coordinated a national day of action to support federal and local tax reform, the maintenance of social services and job creation.

## Our Sponsors

HSC is grateful to our members and funders who support our work on behalf of the human services sector.

Valued supporters of HSC include:

The Clark Foundation

IBM Corporation

Mutual of America

New York City Council and Speaker Christine Quinn

New York Community Trust

UJA-Federation of NY

United Way of New York City

- [Center for Employment Opportunities](#)
- [OHEL Children's Home and Family Services](#)

In addition to our newest members, HSC also extends a **warm welcome to our new team of interns**. You can meet them on the [Staff page](#) of our website. Please join us in welcoming them to the human services sector. We'd also like to thank our amazing interns from the fall: **Michael Apicelli**, **Neha Kallianpurkar**, and **Nicole Lee**. Your commitment and outstanding efforts were instrumental in helping us achieve our sector goals and objectives. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

## Member News

### Announcements

HSC would like to congratulate our Board Chair and Executive Director of Center for Alternative Sentencing and Employment Services (CASES), **Joel Copperman**, on being honored at Youth Represent's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual "Who Takes the Cake" benefit. Joel truly takes the cake for his tireless efforts in advocating for alternatives to incarceration as well as HSC!

HSC would like to extend a warm welcome to **Mary Ann Grossman** as the new Executive Director of **Career Gear**. We look forward to working with her in the future.

**Loren Miller**, former Director for Bushwick IMPACT with Agenda for Children Tomorrow, has recently joined **United Way of New York City** as the new Associate Vice President of Strengthening New York City Nonprofits. Please join HSC in welcoming Loren Miller to her new position!

### Job Opportunities & Resources

**YWCA of New York City** is looking for a [Chief Executive Officer](#).

**Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation** is seeking a [Director of Development](#).

**Urban Pathways** is seeking a [Program Director](#).

**Sunnyside Community Services** is looking for an [Associate Executive Director for Community Services](#).

**Thank you again for your generous support!**

If you'd like to contribute to HSC or the Who Cares? I Do campaign, you can make a tax-deductible donation by sending a check to:

Human Services Council  
130 East 59th Street  
New York, NY 10022

Or you can donate online using the following links:

[Who Cares? I Do. donation](#)

[HSC donation](#)

Thank you!

We would also like to thank our members for their continued membership and support. We realize that the not-for-profit sector is facing the toughest budgetary constraints in years and that our [200 members](#) make difficult trade-off decisions daily regarding where and how to spend limited funds. We are pleased and grateful to have you with us!

Finally, you can help the sector by asking other not-for-profit human services agencies to join HSC. Our collective voice gets louder as we add more members. Please see our [website](#) for our application form, HSC video, and information about the benefits of joining HSC. Or contact [Cynthia Tao](#) at 212-836-1623 for more information.

Please remember that you can follow us on Twitter or find us on Facebook. We'd love to have you become our fans!



**Henry Street Settlement** is looking for a [Director of Development](#).

**Center for Urban Community Services** is seeking to fill [several positions](#).

We hope you enjoyed reading this quarter's edition of the Human Services Council Newsletter. Please feel free to share your thoughts about this newsletter with us. We'd love to hear from you.

Our collective voice gets louder as we add more members. Please see our website, [www.humanservicescouncil.org](http://www.humanservicescouncil.org), to learn more about HSC's mission and work. You can also visit our website for an HSC application form, HSC video, and information about the benefits of joining HSC. If you have any questions, please contact [Cynthia Tao](#), Director of Communications, Membership, and Development, at 212.836-1623.

*HSC's mission is to strengthen the not-for-profit human services sector's ability to improve the lives of New Yorkers in need.*

**The Voice of the Human Services Community**

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